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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/014293

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl⁷ A61B8/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
Int.Cl⁷ A61B8/00-8/15

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1922-1996	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2004
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2004	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 3-181877 A (Hewlett-Packard Co.), 07 August, 1991 (07.08.91), Full text; all drawings & US 5011438 A	1-6
A	JP 2000-33087 A (Hewlett-Packard Co.), 02 February, 2000 (02.02.00), Full text; all drawings & US 5997479 A	1-6
A	JP 9-322896 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 16 December, 1997 (16.12.97), Full text; all drawings (Family: none)	1-6

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
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- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
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- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
16 November, 2004 (16.11.04)

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30 November, 2004 (30.11.04)

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Japanese Patent Office

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PCT/JP2004/014293

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 10-267904 A (General Electric Co.), 09 October, 1998 (09.10.98), Full text; all drawings & US 5832923 A	1-6